

**Options for JFK School  
Configuration for  
2010-2011  
2011-2012**

- Tim Neville, Principal
- JFK Middle School



**Task:**

**Design a school organization that will:**

- ☛ Accommodate all of Enfield's 6th-8th or 7th-9th grade students
- ☛ Meet the developmental and educational needs of these students
- ☛ Be able to be partially or fully implemented for September 2010
- ☛ Maximize all resources (staff, materials, facilities, etc.)

**Assumptions:**

- Enfield needs a school organization that is developmentally appropriate and reflects best practice, both statewide and nationally.
- There is a need to adjust to current demographic trends and economic realities.
- At least one elementary school is closed.
- Change may be disruptive to all stakeholders (students, parents, staff) and may bring some resistance.
- Timely communication with these groups

**Option # 1**

- Move all sixth graders to JFK over a 2 year period.
  - Move some sixth graders (200-250) to JFK for September 2010
  - Move remaining sixth graders to JFK for September 2011

## Option # 1

### ☛ Supporting Data

#### ☛ Projected Enrollment: (2010 - 2011)

- ☛ 6th grade: 200- 250 students
- ☛ 7th grade: 463 students\*
- ☛ 8th grade: 425 students\*

Total: 1088 - 1138 students

## Option # 1

### ☛ Supporting Data

#### ☛ Projected 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Size (2010-2011)

##### Current 5th Grade Class Size (2009-2010):

- ☛ With 436 students in 9 different elementary schools, class size ranges from 17 to 26 per class.
- ☛ Based on the current 5th grade enrollment the total number of 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers across all elementary schools is 21.

## Option # 1

### ☛ Supporting Data

- ☛ Projected 6th Grade Class Size (2010-2011) based on 200 to 250 students at JFK (rest at elementary schools):

	9 classrooms	10 classrooms	11 classrooms
200 students	22.2	20	18.2
250 students	27.8	25	22.7

### Pros to Option # 1: 6-8

*(200-250 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK for 2010)*

- ☛ 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade model is the most prevalent middle school organization statewide and nationwide.
- ☛ Equitable distribution of 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes (size).
- ☛ JFK administrators and staff have successfully implemented this model before and have considerable experience with 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Pros to Option # 1: 6-8**(200-250 6<sup>th</sup>  
graders to JFK for 2010)

- ⑨ Provides JFK 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers access to TAC and use of eSchool for report cards (on a pilot basis).
- ⑨ More 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have access to the after school resources and JFK after school program.
- ⑨ There are economies of scale in more fully utilizing JFK's building and district staff resources.

**Pros to Option # 1: 6-8**(200-250 6<sup>th</sup>  
graders to JFK for 2010)

- ⑨ Incremental adoption of the model will:
  - ⑨ Provide gradual change vs. drastic change
  - ⑨ Minimally affect K-5 student population for 2010-11
  - ⑨ Provide a year to carefully redefine the school boundaries and communicate impending changes to all constituencies

**Pros to Option # 1: 6-8(200-250 6<sup>th</sup>**  
*graders to JFK for 2010)*

- 9 A middle school model is best suited for the 6 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade age group for the following:
  - 9 Student centered
  - 9 Developmentally appropriate
  - 9 Emphasizes hands on learning
  - 9 Organized in interdisciplinary teams
  - 9 Provides extended student/teacher relationships through teams and looping
  - 9 Solidifies connection among guidance, team teachers, students, and parents
  - 9 Provides a basis for implementing a comprehensive developmental guidance program

**Pros to Option # 1: 6-8(200-250 6<sup>th</sup>**  
*graders to JFK for 2010)*

- 9 Can be successfully implemented in the time frame allotted (September 2010) only if the following conditions are met:
  - 9 sufficient time, staff and material resources are provided
  - 9 summer programs scheduled for JFK (TOE and EPS) relocated to other buildings

**Cons to Option #1: 6-8**

*(200-250 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK for 2010)*

- Partial implementation not equitable for all district 6<sup>th</sup> graders
- Need to open pool as a teaching station.
- Move teaching materials and supplies
- Need to relocate summer programs at JFK (TOE and EPS) to other buildings to facilitate transition.

**Option # 2**

- Move all sixth graders to JFK for September 2010.

## Option # 2

### Supporting Data

#### Projected Enrollment: (2010-2011)

- 6th grade: 436 students
- 7th grade: 463 students\*
- 8th grade: 425 students\*

Total: 1324 students

## Option # 2

### Supporting Data (same as option #1)

- Projected 6th Grade Class Size (2010-2011):  
Current 5th Grade Class Size (2009-2010):
  - With 436 students in 9 different elementary schools, class size ranges from 17 to 26 per class.
  - Based on the current 5th grade enrollment the total number of 6th grade teachers across all elementary schools is 21.



## Option # 2

### ☛ Supporting Data

☛ Projected Class Sizes based on 436 students:

	16 classrooms	17 classrooms	18 classrooms	19 classrooms
436 students	27.3	25.6	24.2	22.9

### **Pros to Option #2: 6-8**

*(ALL 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK for 2010)*

- ☛ Mostly the same as option # 1.
- ☛ There are economies of scale in more fully utilizing JFK's building and district staff resources.
- ☛ Transition will happen only once and not over two years.

**Cons to Option #2: 6-8**

*(ALL 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK for 2010)*

- Limited time to communicate these significant changes to all constituencies.
- Will require total redefinition of the elementary boundaries and affect the majority of the K-5 population.

**Cons to Option #2: 6-8**

*(ALL 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK for 2010)*

- This is a larger and more drastic change than option #1
- **Can NOT be implemented for September 2010**

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

- **Pros to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**
- None

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

- **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**
  - This model is a remnant of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, when not all students went on to high school
  - This model does not exist in any Connecticut public school
  - This model is not considered best middle school practice and is not supported in current research
  - Not developmentally appropriate for this age group

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

- 9 **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**
  - 9 Physical, social, and emotional needs are different within this age group
  - 9 11 year olds – 16 year olds are at very different phases of development, not compatible

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

- 9 **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**
  - 9 9<sup>th</sup> graders take high school credits, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders do not
  - 9 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses would need to be replicated in a 10-12 school
  - 9 Some needed 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses would address a very small population, such as French 3 (11<sup>th</sup> grade course) or Biology (10<sup>th</sup> grade course). These courses will need to be offered.

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

☉ **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**

- ☉ Language classes would be mixed with 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Also, only 9<sup>th</sup> graders would receive credit. This would require drastic changes to the master schedule within eSchool.
- ☉ Delivery of health curriculum within PE for 9<sup>th</sup> graders would be very difficult to carry out.
- ☉ Staff would need to be shared between the junior high and high school. Therefore, both schools would need to be on the same schedule. Teacher availability for duties would be limited by this sharing.

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***  
**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

☉ **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**

- ☉ Would need to look at all 7-12 teachers' certifications to ensure appropriate skill sets to teach upper level courses.
- ☉ Would require changes in teacher contract as to what constitutes "seniority by level."
- ☉ 9<sup>th</sup> grade attendance policy is different from the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> policy

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***

**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

9 **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**

- 9 Problem with what to do with 9<sup>th</sup> graders during March, when 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are engaged in CMT testing.
- 9 Problem with what to do with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders during 9<sup>th</sup> grade exams in January and June.

**\*\* NOT RECOMMENDED \*\***

**7-9 Junior High School @JFK**

9 **Cons to 7-9 Junior High at JFK**

- 9 \*\*\*Would need to implement within eSchool two schools – 9<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> to accommodate different scheduling and grading/credit needs.
- 9 Study hall issues
- 9 Sports – 9<sup>th</sup> graders needing to be bused to the high schools for varsity and JV sports

## Our Recommendations

### Option #1 : Incoming 6th Graders

Choice 1*	Choice 2	Choice 3
233 — 6th Graders	241 — 6th Graders	250 — 6th Graders
Schools	Schools	Schools
1. Alcorn 34 2. Parkman 48 3. Stowe 38 4. Memorial 61 5. Whitney 52 <b>Total 233</b> Avg Class Size for 10 classes = 23.3	1. Alcorn 34 2. Parkman 48 3. Stowe 38 4. Crandall 69 5. Whitney 52 <b>Total 241</b> Avg Class Size for 10 classes = 24.1	1. Alcorn 34 2. Parkman 48 3. Stowe 38 4. Crandall 69 5. Memorial 61 <b>Total 250</b> Avg Class Size for 10 classes = 25.0
* Rec		

## Summary of Options for JFK School

Option 1* 200-250 6th Graders September 2010	Option 2 All 436 6th Graders September 2011	Option 3 7-9 Junior High <i>Not Recommended</i>
<b>Pros</b> 1. 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade model is the most prevalent middle school organization statewide and nationwide. 2. A middle school model is best suited for the 6 to 8th grade 3. Equitable distribution of 6 <sup>th</sup> grade classes (size). 4. Incremental adoption 5. Provides JFK 6 grade teachers access to TAC	<b>Pros</b> 1. 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade model is the most prevalent middle school organization statewide and nationwide. 2. A middle school model is best suited for the 6 to 8th grade 3. Equitable distribution of 6 <sup>th</sup> grade classes (size). 4. Transition will happen only once 5. Provides JFK 6 grade teachers access to TAC	<b>Pros</b> 1. There are no identifiable pros to this option
<b>Cons</b> 1. Partial implementation not equitable for all district 6 <sup>th</sup> graders 2. Move teaching materials and supplies 3. Need to open pool as a teaching station	<b>Cons</b> 1. Move teaching materials and supplies 2. Need to open pool as a teaching station 3. Limited time to communicate these significant changes to all constituencies. 4. Can NOT be Implemented for September 2010	<b>Cons</b> 1. Subject centered vs. student centered 2. 11 year olds – 16 year olds are at very different phases of development, not compatible • 8 <sup>th</sup> graders take high school credits, • 8 <sup>th</sup> grade attendance policy • Sports – 9 <sup>th</sup> graders needing to be bused • Not supported in current research
<b>Recommended</b>		



- Enfield Public Schools
- Enfield, Connecticut

